

### **USAID HIV/AIDS E-Newsletter**



May 17, 2004

A monthly update on activities of the U.S. Agency for International Development Office of HIV/AIDS and its partners to prevent and mitigate HIV/AIDS across the developing world. We encourage you to circulate this publication to colleagues.

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The "USAID HIV/AIDS E-Newsletter" is conducting a brief survey to gather information to better meet your needs and to improve coverage of news, information, and events of USAID and its partners. Please take a moment to complete the online survey. Your comments will help make the newsletter a more valuable communication tool. Survey.

#### **NEWS**

**USAID Names First Grant Recipients for President Bush's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief**USAID announced the recipients of its first round of grants under The President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief. The grants were given under two categories: support for children affected by AIDS and abstinence and behavior-change prevention programs targeted at youth.

Supporting programs for orphans and vulnerable children in Ethiopia, Kenya, Mozambique, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, and Haiti, are Catholic Relief Services (\$7 million), Habitat for Humanity and Opportunity International (\$5.1 million), and Save the Children (\$5.9 million). Abstinence and behavior change for youth grantees are the American Red Cross (\$7 million) and World Relief (\$9.7 million). These two organizations will work in Kenya, Mozambique, Rwanda, Tanzania, Guyana, and Haiti. More.

#### USAID Official Testifies on Capital Hill About HIV/AIDS and Food

USAID Administrator Andrew Natsios, Global AIDS Coordinator Ambassador Randall Tobias, and World Food Program Director James Morris testified before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee on May 11 on the topic of food and HIV/AIDS.  $\underline{\text{More}}$ .

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

# American International Health Alliance Accepting Proposals to Establish U.S.-Russian Partnerships

As part of USAID's HIV/AIDS Care and Treatment Program, the American International Health Alliance (AIHA) will award several grants to support the establishment of four new partnerships between U.S. health-related institutions and counterparts in the Russian Federation. AIHA is currently seeking applications from U.S. institutions willing to devote substantial in-kind resources, mainly in the form of human resources committed on a voluntary basis, for approximately two-year partnerships in four regions of Russia. Under the solicitation, AIHA will award four partnerships to create replicable and integrated models of HIV/AIDS care and treatment, including care and treatment for HIV-infected women and injecting drug users. The four partnership sites are St. Petersburg, Samara, Saratov, and Orenburg. The application deadline is June 4. More.

#### RECENT EVENTS

#### **International AIDS Candlelight Memorial Observed on May 16**

Thousands of communities around the world came together in solidarity on May 16 to light candles and remember those who have been affected by HIV/AIDS. Each year, memorials take place in more than 1,500 communities in approximately 85 countries. The International AIDS Candlelight Memorial has become the largest grassroots AIDS event in the world. More.

#### USAID-Funded Media Resource Center on HIV/AIDS Opens in Kenya

The Kenya Minister for Information, Broadcasting, and Tourism officially opened the USAID-funded Media Resource Center on HIV/AIDS, May 5, in Nairobi. A facility for journalists to research and produce stories on HIV/AIDS, the resource center is part of the Local Voices project managed by Internews Network, which trains radio journalists, talk show hosts, and deejays to improve reporting and programming on HIV/AIDS issues. The resource center houses more than 2,000 media-friendly HIV/AIDS publications, five computers that have quick Internet access, and radio digital editing programs. More.

#### HIV/AIDS Conference Tackles Stigma and Discrimination in Croatia

The American International Health Alliance, in cooperation with USAID and the Andrija Stampar School of Public Health at the University of Zagreb, hosted a conference, April 26–27, in Zagreb to address issues related to HIV/AIDS and encourage cooperation with members of the mass media to raise public awareness in an effort to help end stigma and discrimination. The film "Pandemic: Facing AIDS" was screened for conference participants and the public. More.

#### **PUBLICATIONS**

#### Report Analyzes Workforce Implications of Scaling Up HIV/AIDS Services in Zambia

The Quality Assurance Project recently published the final report of a study commissioned by the Zambian Central Board of Health to project how many additional service providers will be required to scale up voluntary counseling and testing, prevention of mother-to-child transmission, and antiretroviral treatment services nationally, as Zambia plans to do with its Global Fund award. The study, funded by USAID, measured the time required to perform counseling, lab tests, drug dispensing, and other tasks for each type of HIV/AIDS service. More.

## EngenderHealth Releases Research Findings on Factors Likely to Affect Microbicide Introduction

"Paving the Path: Preparing for Microbicide Introduction," presents results from a qualitative study in South Africa that explored a range of issues likely to influence microbicide introduction at the community, health service, and policy level. Supported by USAID and the John D. Rockefeller Foundation, the study was implemented collaboratively by EngenderHealth, the University of Cape Town Women's Health Research Unit, the Population Council, and the International Partnership for Microbicides. More.

#### Global AIDSLink Highlights Women and HIV/AIDS

The April/May 2004 issue of "Global AIDSLink" is dedicated to the topic of the feminization of HIV/AIDS. The issue features articles on the Mother-to-Child Transmission-Plus Initiative, female condoms, microbicides, rape as a weapon of war, and the impact female stereotypes has on gender violence. More.

#### **Meeting Report on Youth Interventions Now Available**

"New Findings from Intervention Research: Youth Reproductive Health and HIV Prevention" summarizes the meeting held September 9–10, 2003, in Washington, D.C., and sponsored by the Population Council's FRONTIERS and Horizons Programs, and Family Health International's YouthNet Program. Findings from youth intervention studies in Bangladesh, Cote d'Ivoire, Kenya, Mexico, Senegal, South Africa, Tanzania, and Thailand were discussed. More.

#### Youth Issues Paper Explores Teacher Training and HIV/AIDS Education

"Teacher Training: Essential for School-Based Reproductive Health and HIV/AIDS Education: Focus on Sub-Saharan Africa" examines the importance of teacher training, elements of curricula, and teacher selection issues, as well as projects in four countries. More.

#### **ONLINE RESOURCES**

#### Online Compendium Lets Practitioners Find and Submit Best Practices

In 2001, Advance Africa initiated the identification, documentation, and promotion of best practices in family planning and reproductive health. The Best Practices Initiative aims to provide countries in Africa and throughout the world with appropriate technical and programmatic information as they seek to improve or expand their health programs. Users can search by multiple topic areas (including HIV/AIDS), review the successes of specific practices, submit their own best and promising practices, and comment on their experiences with different interventions. More.

#### Synergy Resource Center Highlights What's New

The Synergy HIV/AIDS Resource Center contains more than 3,263 searchable online documents relevant to HIV/AIDS project management, research, and reproductive health issues. <u>More</u>.



The Synergy Project publishes this newsletter on behalf of USAID's Office of HIV/AIDS.

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